

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15

DHA-02 SAM-01 ACDA-10 AID-05 OMB-01 /101 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/SE:NLPZDRAL;SAC

APPROVED BY EUR:LBLAINGEN

EUR/SE:WLEAGLETON

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R 110108Z AUG 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USMISSION NATO

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CY, PFOR

SUBJECT: PRESIDENT'S REPORT ON CYPRUS

1. ASSOCIATED PRESS AUGUST 6 CARRIED FOLLOWING DISPATCH
REGARDING PRESIDENT'S LATEST 60-DAY REPORT TO CONGRESS ON
CYPRUS:

QUOTE: PRESIDENT FORD TOLD CONGRESS TODAY THAT LITTLE
PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE IN NEGOTIATING A CYPRUS SETTLEMENT.

--DESPITE U.S. EFFORTS TO WORK WITH GREECE AND TURKEY ON
THE CYPRUS PROBLEM, FORD SAID, 'WE HAVE BEEN UNSUCCESSFUL
THUS FAR IN GETTING THE PARTIES TO SET ASIDE PROCEDURAL
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PROBLEMS AND TO MOVE ON TO DISCUSSIONS OF THE KEY SUBSTAN-

TIVE ISSUES, SUCH AS TERRITORY.'

--FORD'S REMARKS CAME IN RESPONSE TO A REQUEST BY CONGRESS FOR PERIODIC REPORTS ON THE CYPRUS NEGOTIATIONS. FORD OUTLINED HIS OWN PERSONAL EFFORTS AND THOSE OF SECRETARY OF STATE HENRY KISSINGER AND U.S. AMBASSADORS IN GREECE, TURKEY AND CYPRUS WHO HE SAID, 'HAVE LOST NO OPPORTUNITY TO CONTRIBUTE TO OUR COMMON GOAL OF ACHIEVING A CYPRUS SOLUTION.'

--FORD REPORTED TALKING AT LENGTH ABOUT THE PROBLEM WITH THE FOREIGN MINISTERS OF GREECE AND TURKEY. HE SAID HE BROUGHT UP THE SUBJECT AT THE PUERTO RICAN SUMMIT CONFERENCE IN JUNE WITH LEADERS OF THE INDUSTRIAL NATIONS.

--THE PRESIDENT SAID THAT TALKS BETWEEN THE TWO CYPRIOT SIDES UNDER THE GUIDANCE OF U.S. SECRETARY KURT WALDHEIM HAVE BEEN IN RECESS SINCE FEBRUARY. LOWER-LEVEL TALKS ON HUMANITARIAN ISSUES, ALSO IN RECESS, 'HAVE PRODUCED LIMITED PROGRESS ON SUBSIDIARY ISSUES, BUT LEFT THE CENTRAL POINTS OF CONTENTION UNRESOLVED,' HE SAID.

--'MEANWHILE, NEW FRICTIONS CONTINUE TO ARISE ON THE ISLAND AS EACH SIDE SEEKS TO MAINTAIN OR IMPROVE ITS POSITION, EITHER LOCALLY ON THE ISLAND OR ON THE WIDER INTERNATIONAL STAGE,' HE SAID.

--FORD NOTED THERE ARE MANY PROPOSALS FOR SOLUTIONS TO THE CYPRUS PROBLEM, BUT 'THE ONLY SOLUTION WHICH WILL RESTORE DOMESTIC TRANQUILLITY FOR ALL THE CITIZENS OF THAT ISLAND IS ONE WHICH THEY WORK OUT AMONG THEMSELVES.' END QUOTE.
ROBINSON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESIDENT, PRESS COMMENTS, SPEECHES, POLITICAL SITUATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 11 AUG 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE198569
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: NLP AZDRAL;SAC
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760308-0553
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760864/aaaacdrf.tel
Line Count: 93
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <08 APR 2004 by ReddocGW>; APPROVED <03 JAN 2005 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRESIDENT'S REPORT ON CYPRUS
TAGS: PFOR, CY, US, (FORD, GERALD R)
To: NICOSIA
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006